



Saskatchewan
Ministry of
Agriculture

*This information is provided as a resource by Saskatchewan Agriculture staff.
All stated cattle prices are based on the weekly Canfax Market Outlook and Summary.
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Cattle Market Update

For the Week Ending November 29, 2013

All prices are quoted in Canadian dollars per hundredweight (\$/cwt) unless otherwise stated.

Feeder Cattle

Steers

	Range	Average	Change from last week
300-400	171-203	187.97	+1.83
400-500	164-194	176.44	-1.10
500-600	152-175	162.65	+1.38
600-700	144-164	152.29	+1.29
700-800	139-155	145.83	+0.20
800-900	130-146	139.79	-1.50
900+	120-139	132.63	+0.96

Heifers

	Range	Average	Change from last week
300-400	142-171	152.61	-0.52
400-500	138-163	150.35	+1.35
500-600	132-153	141.15	-0.16
600-700	128-142	134.40	+0.69
700-800	122-135	130.00	+3.87
800+	117-133	123.95	-0.72

Source: Canfax.

Note: Prices are determined from Saskatchewan auction marts' reports of sale results from Thursday of the previous week to Thursday of the current week.

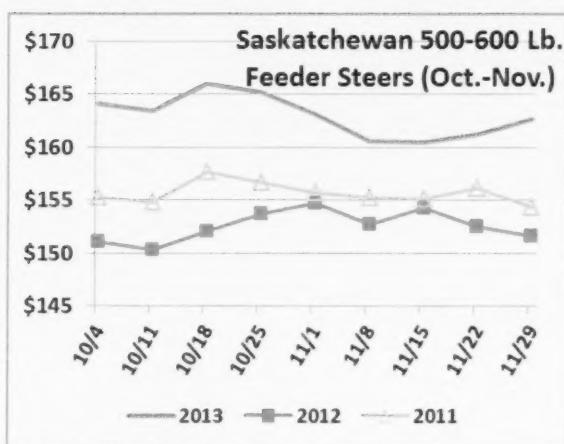
Canfax reported that a total of 39,231 head of cattle were sold in Saskatchewan this week, down from 43,344 head marketed the previous week.

Feeder cattle prices were mixed over the week. Average prices for feeder steers ranged from \$1.50 per cwt lower to \$1.83 per cwt higher. The feeder steers in the 300-400 lb. weight category had the largest gain from the previous week increasing \$1.83 per cwt, while the 800-900 lb. weight category had the largest decrease at \$1.50 per cwt. Feeder steer prices in 500-600 lb. weight range have averaged over \$10 per cwt higher and feeder steers in the 700-800 lb. weight range have average almost \$13 per cwt higher in October and November 2013, compared to the same nine week period in 2012.

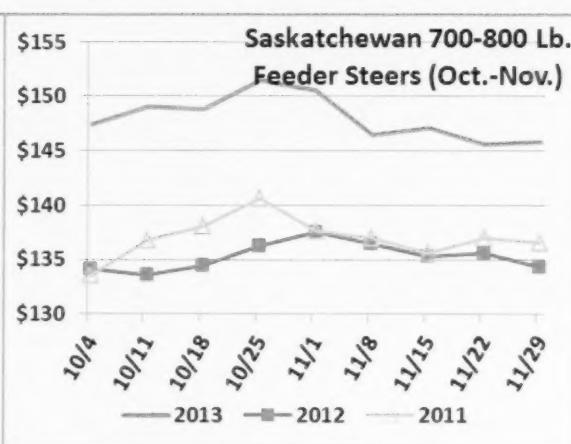
Feeder heifer prices were mixed over the week. Feeder heifer prices ranged from \$0.72 per cwt lower to \$3.87 per cwt higher. The 700-800 lb. weight category had the largest gain increasing \$3.87 per cwt. The 800+ lb. weight category decreased the most at \$0.72 per cwt.

The Saskatchewan 750 lb. feeder steer basis compared to the November 28, 2013 U.S. feeder cattle index at US\$164.63 per cwt was calculated at -\$29.01 per cwt (US\$164.63/0.9416 - \$145.83), a basis widening of \$1.15 per cwt from -\$27.86 per cwt the previous week. The current basis is significantly wider than a year ago (\$-8 to \$-11 per cwt in November 2012).

The widening basis could be caused by changes in demand because of the new Country of Origin Labeling requirements and the shift in feed prices (cost changes/advantage) between Canada and the United States.

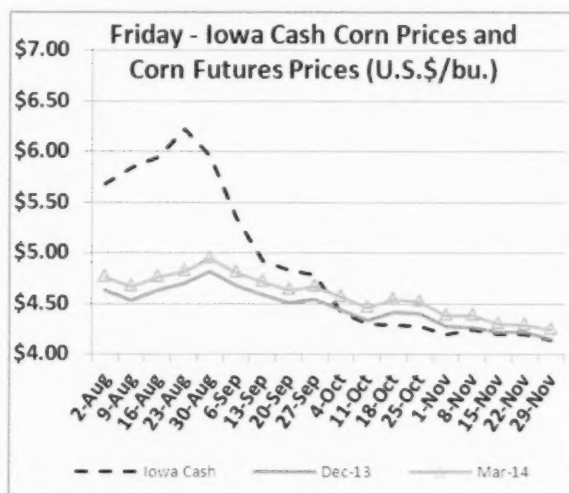


Source: CANFAX

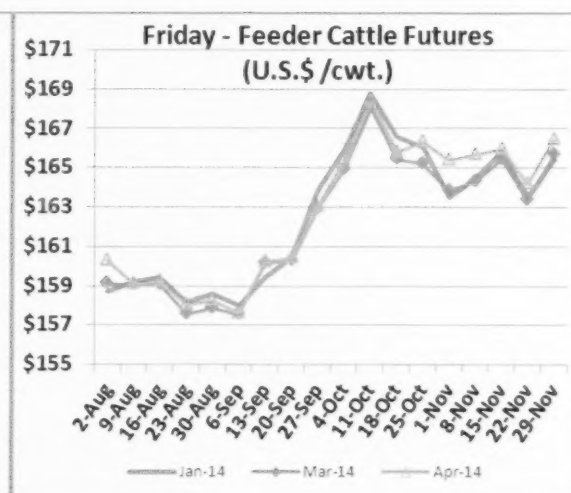


Source: CANFAX

Iowa cash corn prices and nearby corn futures were lower over the week. The Iowa cash price as of Wednesday November 27 was down 5 cents compared to the previous Friday to close Wednesday at US\$4.14 per bushel. The December corn futures contract was 7 cents lower to settle Friday at US\$4.15 per bushel while the March contract decreased almost 5 cents to close the week at US\$4.24 per bushel.



Source: CME



Source: CME

Feeder cattle futures prices moved higher over the week with the January to March contracts increasing between US\$1.975 per cwt and US\$2.300 per cwt, week-over-week. The January feeder contract settled the week at US\$165.475 per cwt while the March contract settled the week at US\$165.675 per cwt.

Live cattle futures prices were also higher over the week. The December to April contracts increased between US\$2.00 per cwt and US\$2.45 per cwt, week-over-week. The December contract settled the week at US\$133.475 per cwt while the February contract settled the week at US\$134.250 per cwt. Increases in beef cutout values over the week have helped feeder and live cattle futures markets move higher.

Fed and Non-fed Cattle

	November 29	November 22	Change
<u>Cows (Alberta)</u>			
D1,2 Live	69.79	69.20	+0.59
D3 Live	63.42	62.50	+0.92
Rail	134-139	134-139	+0.00

Source: Canfax.

Prices for liveweight, non-fed cattle in Alberta edged higher from the previous week with D1,2 slaughter cows increasing \$0.59 per cwt to average \$69.79 per cwt, while D3 slaughter cows increased \$0.92 per cwt to average \$63.42 per cwt, from last week.

Fed cattle prices in Western Canada were higher over the week. Fed steers in Alberta were reported to average \$126.47 per cwt, up \$1.81 per cwt from \$124.66 per cwt the previous week. Fed cattle prices in Alberta were back at all-time highs last week.

Note: Cow-calf producers in Saskatchewan are reminded to check with their local market operators regarding current market conditions for non-fed cattle. Producers are also reminded that old, thin cows have a very low market value. The non-fed prices quoted each week do not represent the market price for these animals. As an alternative to transporting these animals, you may want to check with your local veterinarian or the nearest Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) office to see if these animals are eligible for testing as part of the bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) surveillance program. Producers receive \$75 from the CFIA for each eligible sample submitted. The goal of this program is to prove that the BSE control measures implemented in Canada are working.

The live (FOB feedlot) weighted average 5-area (Texas/Oklahoma/New Mexico, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Iowa/Minnesota) weekly fed steer price in the U.S. was reported at US\$132.66 per cwt, up from US\$130.55 per cwt the previous week. The dressed (delivered basis) price for U.S. steers delivered to plants in the 5-area was reported at US\$209.49 per cwt, up 1.2 per cent from the previous week.

Beef cutout prices averaged US\$202.04 per cwt over the week, up 1.4 per cent from US\$199.28 per cwt the previous week (Choice 600-900 lb.). Beef production for the shorter Thanksgiving week averaged 444.7 million lb., down 10.9 per cent from 499.2 million lb. the previous week. Weekly cattle slaughter numbers totaled 555,000 head, down 10.9 per cent from 623,000 head the previous week.

Friday Price Information

Product	This Week (November 29)	Week of: (November 22)
Canadian Dollar (closing rate US\$)	.9416	.9502
U.S. Cash Cattle		
Thurs. Feeder Cattle (FC) Index (US\$ per cwt)	164.63	164.85
Seven-day Weighted Average FC Index Wt. (lb.)	751	732
Live Fed 5-area Steer Price (US\$ per cwt)	132.66	130.55
Feed Grains		
Barley Lethbridge (\$/tonne)	NA	183.00
(\$ per bu.)	NA	3.98
Corn Iowa State Average (CDN\$/tonne)*	173.09	173.60
(US\$ per bu.)(Wed. 27/corn)	4.14	4.19
Omaha, NE (CDN\$/tonne)*	172.67	169.87
(US\$ per bu.)	4.13	4.10
Futures		
December Corn (US\$ per bu.)	4.15¼	4.22¼
March Corn (US\$ per bu.)	4.24½	4.29¼
December Live Cattle (US\$ per cwt)	133.475	131.475
February Live Cattle (US\$ per cwt)	134.250	131.800
January Feeder Cattle (US\$ per cwt)	165.475	163.500
March Feeder Cattle (US\$ per cwt)	165.675	163.375

Sources: Bank of Canada, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), ICE Futures Canada and USDA Livestock & Grain Market News

* conversion to CDN\$ is based on Friday's CDN\$ closing rate

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